

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01584 071501Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-10 EA-09 ARA-14 TRSE-00  
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/155 W

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P R 071220Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5821  
INFO AMZMBASSY BONN 152  
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS LUSAKA 1584

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O.#11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, MOPS, ZA, RH, XH, US, AO  
SUBJ: ZAMBIAN PRESS SOUTHERN AFRICA HIGHLIGHTS -- JUNE 7

REF: LUSAKA 1573 (NOTAL)

1. KAUNDA'S REMARKS TO GERMAN JOURNALISTS IN BONN THAT SMITH'S  
"RUMBLING NOISES" OVER THE ALLEGED SHELLING OF KARIBA BY ZAMBIAN  
TROOPS (REFTEL) ARE PART OF A SMITH SCHEME TO INTERNATIONALIZE  
THZ RHODESIA SITUATION DOMINATED THE DAILY MAIL'S FRONTPAGE.  
ACCORDING TO A MAIL REPORTER WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY, KAUNDA  
SAID RHODESIA WAS ATTEMPTING TO PROVOKE ZAMBIA, BOTSWANA AND  
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MOZAMBIQUE INTO HITTING BACK AND THEN BECAUSE OF THEIR MILITARY  
INADEQUACY THE FRONTLINE STATES WOULD BE FORCED TO CALL ON CHINA,  
CUBA AND RUSSIA. KAUNDA SAID A DEVELOPMENT WOULD SUIT SMITH ALLOWING  
HIM TO CALL ON SOUTH AFRICA AND EUROPE FOR HELP. KAUNDA REITERATED  
THAT IF ATTACKED, ZAMBIA WILL CROSS INTO RHODESIA AND HIT BACK.  
KAUNDA ALSO SAID THAT TWO YEARS FOR THE LIBERATION OF ZIMBABWE WAS  
TATAMOUNT TO FALLING INTO A SMITH TRAP TO PERMIT HIM TO PERPETUATE

HIMSELF IN POWER AND SET 12 MONTHS AS THE OUTSIDE LIMIT FOR ZIMBABWEAN

INDEPENDENCE AFTER WHICH IF INDEPENDENCE IS NOT GRANTED "THEN WE SHALL TAKE IT".

2. IN AN EARLIER INTERVIEW WITH GERMAN JOURNALISTS, THE DAILY MAIL REPORTS THAT KAUNDA SAID THAT ZAMBIA WAS GETTING ARMS FROM THE EASTERN BLOC BECAUSE ARMS FROM THE WEST CAME WITH POLITICAL STRINGS. UNLESS ZAMBIA IS ASSURED THAT ARMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM EUROPE WITHOUT POLITICAL ARM TWISTING, ZAMBIA WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK TO THE EASTERN BLOC FOR ARMS KAUNDA AVERRED. KAUNDA RECALLED THAT DURING THE ANGOLAN WAR SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD OFFERED ZAMBIA U.S. ARMS, BUT THE OFFER HAD BEEN REFUSED BECAUSE THE ARMS WOULD ONLY HAVE

BUILT EASTERN AND WESTERN BLOCs IN THE AREA. ZAMBIA ALSO REFUSED TO ACT AS A CONDUIT FOR ARMS TO THE PRO-WESTERN FACTIONS IN ANGOLA BECAUSE THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN USING ZAMBIA TO FIGHT THE RUSSIANS AND CUBANS KAUNDA EXPLAINED. KAUNDA ACCUSED THE WEST OF MANIPULATING ZAMBIA FOR ITS OWN ENDS DURING THE ANGOLA STRUGGLE. KAUNDA SAID THE WESTERN PORTRAYAL OF ZAMBIA AS PRO-WESTERN, VEHEMENTLY OPPOSED TO, AND SCARED OF COMMUNISM WAS AN EXAMPLE OF THIS MANIPULATION. KAUNDA POINTED OUT THAT ZAMBIA'S STAND IN ANGOLA WAS TAKEN FOR REASONS DIFFERENT THAN THOSE OF THE WEST. SINCE ZAMBIA HAD OPPOSED U.S. AND WESTERN INTERFERENCE ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD, IT WAS TENDENTIOUS TO INTERPRET THE COMMON ZAMBIAN WESTERN STANCE ON ANGOLA AS ESTABLISHING THAT ZAMBIA HAD SUDDENLY BECOME THE FRIEND OF THE WEST.

3. BOTH PAPERS CARRIED RUETERS REPORTS FROM SALISBURY THAT MONDAY UNCLASSIFIED

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THE NATIONALISTS HAD BLOWN UP THE RAIL LINE BETWEEN QUE QUE AND GATOOMA 150 KM. SOUTHWEST OF SALISBURY AND INTERRUPTED SERVICE FOR SEVEN HOURS. A RHODESIAN SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCING THE INCIDENT DISCOUNTED EARLIER REPORTS THAT THE NATIONALISTS HAD ATTEMPTED TO BLOW UP A BRIDGE WITH A TRAIN ON IT AND SAID THAT IN THE INCIDENT, WHICH DID OCCUR, THERE WAS NO DAMAGE TO ROLLING STOCK, PASSENGERS OR RAILWAY STAFF.

4. THE TIMES OF ZAMBIA NOTED A SWAPO WAR COMMUNIQUE STATING THAT 135 SOUTH AFRICAN SOLDIERS HAD BEEN KILLED IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS, 14 VEHICLES DESTROYED, THREE HELICOPTERS SHOT DOWN AND QUANTITIES OF MILITARY HARDWARE SEIZED. THE DAILY MAIL REPORTED A SWAPO SPOKESMAN'S COMMUNICATION TO THE OAU SECRETARY-GENERAL CALLING FOR THE EXPULSION OF SOUTH AFRICA FROM THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY. THE SWAPO STATEMENT CLAIMED THAT SOUTH AFRICA WAS ON THE THRESHOLD OF OPERATING A URANIUM ENRICHMENT PROCESS WHICH WOULD CONSOLIDATE ITS TRADING RELATIONS WITH WESTERN NATIONS AND INCREASE SOUTH AFRICA'S STANDING IN THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY. SOUTH AFRICAN POSSESSION OF A NUCLEAR WEAPON WOULD

CREATE A THREAT NOT ONLY TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, BUT  
TO ALL PEACE-LOVING PEOPLE IN THE WORLD THE STATEMENT ADDED.

5. SPEAKING TO THE PRESS IN LUSAKA JUNE 6 REV. SITHOLE SAID THAT  
IT HAD BEEN DECIDED THAT HE SHOULD RETURN TO RHODESIA, BUT THAT THE  
DATE OF HIS RETURN WAS "TOP MOST SECRET". SITHOLE ALSO SAID THAT HE  
WOULD CONTINUE TO OPPOSE FRONTLINE STATE SUPPORT OF THE PATRIOTIC  
FRONT  
AND WOULD ATTEND THE OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE MEETING IN LUANDA  
NEXT WEEK TO PRESENT HIS CASE.  
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## Message Attributes

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